(d) the steps that would be taken by Government to make officials available to ordinary citizens without requiring introductions and interventions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (d) Guidelines have been laid down in chapter VIII, Para 50, Appendix 9 and 69(12) of the Central Secretariat Manual of Office Procedure which requires Government officers to indicate their name, designation, address and telephone numbers in all written communication. As a citizen centric initiative the Central Government Ministries/ Departments have set up Information and Facilitation Counters where a senior officer is designated as Contact Officer. Instructions have also been issued to designate a senior officer at the level of Joint Secretary as Director of Public Grievances and their names are to be displayed at the Reception and that every Wednesday to be observed as 'meeting-less day' where Director of Public Grievances is available from 10.00 to 13.00 hrs. to hear and receive grievance of citizen. Their name and address, designation, telephone/fax numbers and email address are also published in the leading news papers.

Key goals of NCMP

1921. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIYA:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in an attempt to meet one of the key goals of the National Common Minimum Programme, Government cleared two proposals to provide economic assistance to the common man and the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the implementation of the skill development initiative scheme to be carried out over a period of five years at a cost of Rs. 550 crore;

(b) if so, the other schemes that have been approved; and

(c) by what time they are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the scheme 'Skill Development Initiative' at a cost of Rs. 550 crore to be carried over a period of five years.

(b) Other main schemes related to skill development approved by the CCEA are– (i) Upgradation of 100 ITIs into Centre of Excellence; and (ii) Vocational Training Improvement Project-Externally Aided Project for Reforms and Improvement in Vocational Training Services rendered by Central and State Governments.

(c) Likely completion time is as follows:

Name of the Scheme	Likely completion time
1	2
Skill Development Initiative Scheme	2011-12

1	2
Upgradation of 100 ITIs into Centre of Excellence	2008-09
Vocational Training Improvement Project-Externally Aided Project for Reforms and Improvement in Vocational Training Services rendered by Central and State Governments	2012-13

Common entrance test for universities

1922. SHRI P.R. RAJAN:
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that this Ministry has prepared a plan to reform and restructure higher education sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the plan;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Ministry proposes a common entrance test to all the universities in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether this issue has been discussed with the stakeholders; and

(f) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (f) Yes, Sir. Government plans to reform and restructure higher education sector. Action is being initiated to workout details as part of the Eleventh Plan formulation.

Report of per day expenditure

†1923. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards recently published report of National Commission for Enterprises in the unorganized sector;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that according to this report, 836 million people in the country are making both ends meet by spending Rs.20 per day;

(c) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard;

(d) whether it is a fact that it is not possible for the people of the above said class to make both ends meet as a result of continuous rise in the prices of items of day-to-day use in the country; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.